

IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-22 (canceled)

23. (presently amended) A method, comprising:

reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase, said reducing further comprising discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

24. (canceled).

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said call is point-to-multi-point call.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 29 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being added to said call.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 28 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 32 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

34. (previously presented) The method of claim 32 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

35. (previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

36. – 39. (canceled)

40. (previously presented) A method, comprising:

reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase;

and,

expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

42. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

43. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

44. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said call is point-to-multi-point call.

46. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

47. (previously presented) The method of claim 46 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

48. (previously presented) The method of claim 46 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party having been added to said call.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 45 further comprising expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 49 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

52. (previously presented) The method of claim 40 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

53. (presently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

- a) a switch device; and,
- b) a switched virtual circuit (SVC) controller that manages memory space where call records are stored for calls that flow through said switch device, said switched virtual circuit (SVC) controller configured to reduce the size of a call record maintained for a call that flows through said switch device, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase and wherein said controller is further configured to expand the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

54. (canceled).

55. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein said controller further comprises a message processing system that receives a messages from said switch, said transitioning capable of being interpreted from said message.

56. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein said call further comprises a call over an ATM network.

57. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 further comprising a standby controller that assumes operation of said controller if said controller fails.

58. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein said apparatus is operating within a working network.

59. (presently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for reducing the size of a call record maintained for a point-to-multipoint call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase;

means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being added to said call; and,

means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

Claims 60 – 63 (canceled)

64. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 59 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a second party from said call.

65. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 64 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said second party being dropped from said call.

66. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 59 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

67. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 59 further comprising means for expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

68. (previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for reducing the size of a call record maintained for a point-to-multipoint call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase; and,

means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

69. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a second party to said call.

70. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 69 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said second party being added to said call.

71. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

72. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

73. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 68 further comprising means for expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

74. (previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:

means for reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase; and

means for expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

75. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said means for reducing further comprises means for discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

76. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said means for reducing further comprises means for discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

77. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said means for reducing further comprises means for discarding pointer information from said

call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

78. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

79. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said call is a point-to-multi-point call.

80. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 79 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

81. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 80 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

82. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 80 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party having been added to said call.

83. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 79 further comprising means for expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

84. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 83 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

85. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 83 further comprising means for reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

86. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

87. (presently amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a) a switch; and,

b) a readable medium having stored thereon executable instructions and a memory and processor, said executable instructions and memory and processor for maintaining a call record for a call that flows through said switch, said maintaining a call record further comprising reducing the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase, said maintaining a call record also comprising expanding the size of said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call when said call a point-to-multipoint call, said maintaining a call record also comprising expanding the size of said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop said party from said call.

88. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said maintaining further comprises expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

89. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 further comprising a message processing system of which said processor is a part, said message processing system coupled to said switch through a bi-directional interface to transport a message from said switch to said message processing system, said transitioning capable of being interpreted from said message.

90. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said call further comprises a call over an ATM network.

91. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said call record comprises a call ID before and after said reducing.

92. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 87 wherein said call record further comprises quality of service parameters before and after said reducing.

93. (canceled).

94. (canceled).

95. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 94 wherein said maintaining further comprises reducing the size of said call record during said active phase as a consequence of said party being dropped from said call.

96. (presently amended) An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable medium having instructions which when executed by a computing system perform a method, said method comprising:
reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase, said reducing comprising discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

97. (canceled).

98. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

99. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

100. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

101. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 96 wherein said call is point-to-multi-point call.

102. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 101 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

103. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 102 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

104. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 102 wherein said method further comprises reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being added to said call.

105. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 101 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

106. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 105 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

107. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 105 further comprising reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

108. (previously presented) The article of manufacture of claim 105 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

109. - 112. (canceled).

113. (new) An article of manufacture comprising a computer readable medium having instructions which when executed by a computing system perform a method, said method comprising:

reducing the size of a call record maintained for a call, said reducing in response to said call transitioning from an establishment phase to an active phase;

and,

expanding the size of said call record in response to said call transitioning from said active phase to a release phase.

114. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding timer information from said call record, said timer information used to determine if a time-out situation has occurred.

115. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding retry counter information from said call record, said timer retry counter information used to determine how many times a call set-up retry should be attempted.

116. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said reducing further comprises discarding pointer information from said call record, said pointer information to setup messages that are processed or forwarded by a controller.

117. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said call is a point-to-point call.

118. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said call is point-to-multi-point call.

119. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 118 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to add a party to said call.

120. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 119 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

121. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 119 wherein said method further comprises reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party having been added to said call.

122. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 118 wherein said method further comprises expanding said call record during said active phase to include information used to drop a party from said call.

123. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 122 wherein said information further comprises a pointer to a mini-call record.

124. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 122 wherein said method further comprises reducing said call record during said active phase in response to said party being dropped from said call.

125. (new) The article of manufacture of claim 113 wherein said call is transported through an ATM network.

COMMENTS

The enclosed is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action mailed on 5/19/04. At the time the Examiner mailed the Office Action claims 23-59 and 63-112 were pending. By way of the present response the Applicant has: 1) amended claims 23, 53, 59, 87 and 96; 2) canceled claims 24, 36-39, 54, 63, 93, 94, 97, 109-112; and, 3) added new claims 113-125. As such, claims 23, 25-35, 40-53, 55-59, 64-92, 95, 96, 98-108 and 113-125 are now pending. The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of claims 23, 25-35, 40-53, 55-59, 64-92, 95, 96, 98-108 and 113-125.

The Examiner has allowed claims 40-52 and 68-86. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

The Examiner has objected to claim 96 for its failure to recite any apparatus that executes the claimed instructions. See, Examiner's Office Action mailed 5/19/04, pg. 2. The Applicant has amended claim 96 to recite the claimed instructions as being executable by a "computing system" (e.g., a processor or controller and its associated memory). The Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objection has been overcome in light of this amendment.

The Examiner has rejected independent claims 23, 53, 59, 87 and 96. However, the Examiner has also indicated that certain dependent claims of each of independent claims 23, 53, 59, 87, and 96 were allowable if rewritten into their corresponding base claim. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that claim 24 (which depended from claim 23), claim 54 (which depended from claim 53), claim 63 (which depended from claim 59) and claim 94 (which depended from claims 93 and 87), and claim 97 (which depended from claim 96) would each be allowed if restated in independent form. See, Examiner's Office Action mailed 5/19/04, pg. 13.

As such, even though the Applicant believes the claims as they stood prior to the present amendments were in allowable form, in order to advance the prosecution of the present application, the Applicant has amended each of independent claims 23, 53, 59, 87 and 96 to include the elements of dependent claims 24, 54, 63, 94 and 97, respectively.

The Applicant has also added new claims 113 – 125 which corresponds to allowed claims 40-52 restated in Beauregard form.

Therefore the Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are allowable and should be allowed to pass to issuance.